

tensioning member. The subcombination has separate utility such as a screen-tensioning member in a vibratory screening machine which requires a tensioning member.

The Office Action further alleges that groups II and III are related as combination and subcombination. The Office Action states that invention in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations. The Office Action states that the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because the combination is directed to a vibratory screening machine, but not a vibratory screening machine which requires a vibratory screen wherein the screen includes a plate, first and second side edges, first and second series of spaced apertures proximate said first and second side edges, respectively, and first and second flanges on the plate located outwardly of the first and second series of apertures. The subcombination has separate utility such as a vibratory screen in a vibratory screening machine which does not require a fixed screen engaging member on a first wall and a movable screen engaging member on a second wall.

The Office Action further alleges that groups I and III are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. The Office Action states that invention I has a separate utility such as a screen tensioning member with a screen which does not require a plate, first and second side edges, first and second series of spaced apertures proximate said first and second side edges, respectively, and first and second flanges on the plate located outwardly of the first and second series of apertures.

Applicants were required to elect a single group under 37 CFR 1.143.

In response, Applicant respectfully elects Group III, claims 34 to 38 drawn to a vibratory screen, classified in class 209, subclass 392.

FEES

While no fee is due in conjunction with this submission the Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

CONCLUSION

Prompt consideration of the present application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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